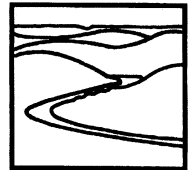


SUMMER  
2003

# Highlands Journal

Quarterly newsletter of the Delaware Highlands Conservancy  
dedicated to preservation of open space and environmental quality in Wayne  
and Pike counties, PA & Sullivan and Delaware counties, NY



## 7<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEADOW PARTY

As Summer draws to an end and we begin to see the first sign of red and yellow on the trees and breathe in hints of crisp Fall air, it is time to come out for a celebration. A celebration of the wonder of nature, its fauna, blue sky, clear cool waters and creatures big and small. It is time for the Meadow Party.



This year's celebration will take place on **Saturday, September 13, 2003, noon – 5 PM**. The setting is once again the beautiful meadow along the Delaware River on the Yeaman farm in Milanville, PA. Admission is free, and all money raised from the day's activities will help support the Conservancy's work to protect land in the region.

This year we are very grateful to **The Dime Bank** for sponsoring our musical entertainment, allowing us to bring on stage two very talented bands. "Rebecca Frezza and Big Truck" will return with their fun and energetic songs and music for the whole family. "The Atlantic Wave" with Master Fiddler, Tony DeMarco, will perform traditional Irish music, song and dance. John Bromberg will also perform in the Blessed Day Cantata with his wonderful puppets. For this year's wildlife

presentation, entomologist Kathy Kelchner will use mounted and live bugs to explain how insects relate to each other and nature.

Additional activities throughout the day include fly-fishing lessons, puppet theater, our children's tent with projects for kids of all ages, river explorations with Don Hamilton, and the popular silent auction tent. This year we also have a large number of environmental exhibits by area organizations and agencies, offering information on a wide array of topics from gardening, to fly-tying, to animal habitat, to water and wildlife conservation.

So, join us on River Road, one mile south of Milanville, PA. Come and breathe the sweet and earthy scents of grass, wildflowers and river water; feast your eyes on the beauty of the Upper Delaware landscape; listen to the sweet sounds of nature and live music; and tickle your taste buds at our savory food buffet. Bring family and friends, this is a community gathering to celebrate our particular wonder of nature: the Upper Delaware and its highlands.

For more information call the Delaware Highlands Conservancy office in Hawley (570) 226 -3164 or Helle Henriksen at (845) 252-7546.



Visit our website at [www.delawarehighlands.org](http://www.delawarehighlands.org) for more events coming in September and October.

## Delaware Highlands Conservancy

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Donald Downs, Treasurer  
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Cindy Wildermuth  
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### Upcoming Meetings:

Land Protection September 20  
Board Meeting October 11

## INTRODUCING CINDY WILDERMUTH

After joining the Delaware Highlands Board of Directors, Cindy Wildermuth immediately became an indispensable member of the Land Protection Committee learning how to use our new GPS system and volunteering to help in our ongoing monitoring of conservation easements.

An active volunteer, Cindy is a member of the Pike County Planning Commission, the Pike County Visioning Benchmark Committee, a volunteer with the Wallenpaupack schools, The Special Olympic Ski Program and other church and civic organizations. She also belongs to The Nature Conservancy, The Audubon Society, Lacawac Sanctuary and the Hawk Mountain Sanctuary.

Cindy grew up in Wyomissing, Pennsylvania and completed a biology degree at Gettysburg College and a Masters in Environmental Management from Duke University. Following graduation she worked for the National Wildlife Federation in Washington, DC in their public policy department. She married Robin Wildermuth a year later and moved to rural Alabama where he worked as a consulting forester. A short stay in the south was followed by a return to Pennsylvania before beginning a family.

Three children and several job transfers later the Wildermuths returned again to Pennsylvania where Cindy decided to pursue a career in real estate, specializing in rural land transactions. She has been an agent with Russ Dimmig Real Estate for over 10 years. Cindy also assists with the operation of Woodland Management Services, a forestry, wildlife and land management company.



**RECENT EVENTS:** The Delaware Highlands Conservancy does more than just work with willing landowners to help conserve land. We also conduct outreach programs to encourage stewardship. We host educational programs, guided walks and field trips at our nature center, the Butterfly Barn and other locations throughout the region.

**DO YOU KNOW WHERE YOUR DRINKING WATER'S BEEN?** John Jose, Education Coordinator for the Pike County Conservation District, used a groundwater flow model to demonstrate how groundwater is stored and travels beneath the surface. In the Delaware Highlands Region, we depend almost entirely on our groundwater reserves to meet our water needs at home, at school and at the work place. Participants learned how contaminants can enter and be transported in groundwater, as well as what can be done around the home to prevent contamination.



**PUPPETS SPREAD THE WORD OF CONSERVATION** In July, the Delaware Highlands Conservancy participated in the Audubon Arts & Craft Festival in Hawley. Ed Wesely and Barbara Yeaman put on several puppet shows stressing the need to protect animal habitat - and then gave the children an opportunity to help tell the story. In addition to raising awareness on conservation, the DHC took the opportunity to raise funds - selling raffle tickets and T-shirts. Second chance to purchase both of these items is at our Meadow Party!

**TOURING THE HISTORIC HOME OF SAMUEL SHERWOOD** Situated on rising land overlooking the Delaware River, this property is now protected by conservation easement thanks to the forethought of the current owner, Mr. Ken Knapp. Twelve lucky members seized the opportunity to explore this unique 29-room house with hidden passages, endless bedrooms, 5 fireplaces and the ghost stairway. Susan McNee, our guide and a friend of Ken Knapp's, told intriguing stories about the former occupants.



**EXPANDING OUR GPS SKILLS** Jack Gearhart, from the Bureau of Forestry, shared the tips of the trade for GPS mapping. GPS coordinates will allow the Delaware Highlands Conservancy to overlay existing and potential conservation easements on maps - visually depicting how a specific easement extends other greenways and shows interested landowners how their property will accomplish a larger conservation goal.

**AQUATIC PLANTS: NECESSITY OR NUISANCE?** Dr. Ann Rhoads, from the Morris Arboretum in Philadelphia, knows more about the plants in the waters of Wayne, Pike, and Susquehanna counties than most botany experts. On August 9th, Dr. Rhoads shared some of her knowledge of the unique aquatic flora found in this region, displaying specimens of rare, more common, and even some troublesome plants that she encountered during her recent surveys.



## DON'T MISS OUT ON FUTURE EVENTS...

- Aug 29 Star Watch – the Planet Mars** 9:00pm at the Butterfly Barn (Rain Date Aug 30)  
This is an extraordinary opportunity to view Mars, which will be closer to Earth than it has been for thousands of years. Don't miss out. The next opportunity will occur in 2287. Local astronomers will share their telescopes. Bring binoculars and folding chairs if you have them.
- Sept 21 Beavers at the Mill Pond** 1:00 pm. Join Jen Naugle, Promised Land State Park naturalist, for a hike on this unique private preserve complete with two active beaver lodges. Regarded by some as a nuisance, the beaver plays a key role in maintaining wildlife diversity and abundance. Learn more about the role of these interesting herbivores. Call the office at (570) 226-3164 for directions.
- Sept 27 Controlling Invasive Plants** 10:00 am in Hancock, NY. The Delaware River Invasive Partnership will be hosting a workshop on how to control non-native invasive plants like Japanese Knotweed, Purple Loosestrife, and others. Find out how you can help protect the natural, native plants in the Upper Delaware River region. Call the office at (570) 226-3164 for directions.
- Oct 4 Exploring the Damascus Forest** 10:00 am (Rain Date Oct 5) Join naturalist Ed Wesely on an autumn walk through the 60-acre Damascus Town Forest to discover how plants and animals prepare for winter. From Milanville, PA or Narrowsburg, NY, take the PA River Rd. to Macubbin Rd. Drive uphill 1/2 mile from the River Rd. to the Town Forest. Meet at the parking area at 10:15 am or at the Butterfly Barn at 10:00 am.
- Oct 24 Star Watch** 8:00 pm at the Butterfly Barn (Rain Date Oct 25) Local astronomers will share their telescopes and sky charts. Observe deep sky objects and how to locate the constellations. This program will last about two hours. Bring binoculars and folding chairs if you have them and dress for cool weather.

## DELAWARE HIGHLANDS CONSERVANCY MEMBERSHIP FORM

I want to conserve natural open space and support the Conservancy with my tax-deductible membership donation of:

\_\_\_ \$25 Student; \_\_\_ \$35 Basic; \_\_\_ \$60 Sponsor; \_\_\_ \$100 Protector; \_\_\_ \$250 Sustainer; \_\_\_ \$500 Conservator; \_\_\_ Other

Please make checks payable to **Delaware Highlands Conservancy**. Mail this form and donation payment to:  
**Delaware Highlands Conservancy, P.O. Box 218, Hawley, PA 18428-0218**

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

(PLEASE PRINT)

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**PHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**EMAIL:** \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to volunteer to help the Conservancy with \_\_\_\_\_

Delaware Highlands Conservancy is a tax-exempt organization as provided by IRS regulations. The official registration and financial information of the Delaware Highlands Conservancy may be obtained from the PA Department of State by calling toll-free, within PA, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

**BUD RUE MEMORIAL WALK FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE** The Delaware Highlands Conservancy is once again a recipient for funds raised in the Upper Delaware Unitarian Fellowship Bud Rue Memorial Walk for Social Justice. This year's walk takes place on Sunday, October 19 beginning at 12:00 p.m. from the Beach Lake Community Center. Help us and five other worthy organizations by participating as a walker or supporter. For more information, contact the office or Stephen Stuart at (845) 252-6626.

**Thank you!** We extend a hearty welcome to our new members: Gary Beilman, Bob Campbell, Jackson Gearhart, Sandra Long, Nancy Nolan, Rebecca Steele and Sarah Wicksnes. We also thank our current members for renewing. Special thanks to those who increased their giving level this year.

### OFFICE WISH LIST:

- cork board
- bookcase or display table for the office lobby
- 4 AA rechargeable batteries and charger

## DELAWARE HIGHLANDS CONSERVANCY

P.O. Box 218 Hawley, PA 18428-0218



*Rebecca Frezza and Big Truck return to the Meadow Party September 13.*

# SCHEDULE OF EVENTS FOR MEADOW PARTY



**12:00**

Silent Auction Opens

**12:30**

Children's Songs & Music  
by  
Rebecca Frezza & Big Truck

**1:00**

Buffet Opens

**1:15**

An Environmental Inspiration  
reading by  
Janet Noble

**1:30**

Bugs for the common man  
by  
Amateur entomologist Kathy Kelchner

**2:00**

Puppet Show in the Butterfly Barn  
Why I wanted a Conservation Easement  
by  
Delaware Highlands Conservancy Easement Holders

**2:30**

Children's Songs & Music  
by  
Rebecca Frezza & Big Truck

**3:00**

Blessed Day Cantata  
by  
John Bromberg & Puppets  
River Explorations with Don Hamilton

**3:30**

The Atlantic Wave – Traditional Irish Song & Music

**4:00**

Puppet Show in the Butterfly Barn  
Silent Auction Closes

**4:30**

Raffle Drawing

Musical Entertainment sponsored by the Dime Bank.



# SILENT AUCTION

## **CANOE TRIP/DINNER FOR FOUR**

Two canoes await you for a 3-4 hour trip through one of the most beautiful stretches of the Delaware River. Stop along the way and open your basket – wine, cheese, and fruit. Arrive at the home of Don and Edie Downs, refresh yourself, and relax as you are served hors 'd oeuvres and dinner at a stone table by the river. Trip can be guided if desired.

## **WERNER CANOE PADDLE**

This paddle, valued at \$125, was donated by Alice's Wonderland.

## **FLY FISHING LESSON WITH DON HAMILTON**

Learn casting skills, insect identification, selecting artificial flies appropriate to natural hatches, aquatic tactics – in short, how to think like a fish. Don is an old pro who has been fishing in the area for many years. He will supply poles and flies, or bring your own.

## **EAGLE INSTITUTE MEMBERSHIP**

The Eagle Institute is a not-for-profit volunteer citizen's group located in Lackawaxen, PA. The Institute is dedicated to protecting the bald eagle and promoting habitat conservation. Your membership will help support these causes and gives you a subscription to the Institute's newsletter and discount offers on programs.

## **DELAWARE HIGHLANDS CONSERVANCY MEMBERSHIP**

Enjoy a one year membership with the Delaware Highlands Conservancy with quarterly newsletters and member only events. And get the satisfaction of helping to conserve the Upper Delaware River Region.

## **GIFT CERTIFICATE TO JILL'S KITCHEN**

The River Reporter's Readers Choice award winner for best Caterer and Take-out, Jill's Kitchen provides take-out for the tasteful palate. Select from home-made soups, main courses, side dishes and sweet endings. To preview what temptations await, check out the menus on [www.jillskitchen.com](http://www.jillskitchen.com)

## **FLY-FISHING ON THE UPPER DELAWARE**

Avid Fly-fishermen Clint Rodell and Greg Belcamino will take you for a day of fly-fishing on the Upper Delaware. Beginner or Advanced fishermen will learn tips and enjoy a day on the river.

## **HALF DAY FLOAT TRIP WITH SWEETWATER GUIDE SERVICE**

Michael Padua has been fishing the waters of this region since 1968. Mike was awarded the Upper Delaware Council's 1999 Recreation Achievement Award for accumulating and imparting a vast knowledge of the Upper Delaware River's ecology and folklore during his 30 years of local fishing exploits and career as a licensed fishing guide. Spend a half day on the River with Mike.

## **ONE DAY FLOAT TRIP WITH SAM DECKER**

Patricia "Sam" Decker is a licensed guide and Federation of Fly Fishers Certified Fly Casting Instructor. Enjoy a full day float trip with Sam.

## **CALLICOON THEATRE**

Ten pairs of movie tickets, a \$120 value, was donated by Edie Downs.